Public Health Advisory Council

March 6, 2014
Meeting Minutes

The regular meeting of the Public Health Advisory Council (PHAC) was held at the Lucas State Office building, Des Moines, Iowa. The meeting began at 10:00 am.

Roll Call:
Members present:        Members Absent:  Other Attendees:
Martha Gelhaus        Senator Joni Ernst Karla Dorman – Support Staff
Kari Prescott Rep. Lisa Heddens Holly Huslebus – IDPH Intern
Amy Thoreson Rep. Linda Miller Lindsay Schmauss - IDPH
Laura Beeck Senator Liz Mathis
Donn Dierks Robert Welander
Betty Mallen Ann Garvey
Frank Magsamen Aimee Devereaux
Gerd Clabaugh Mary Mincer Hansen
Danielle Pettit-Majewski

Via Phone/Webinar
Chris Atchison
Ron Eckoff

Introductions
The Council welcomed a new member, Danielle Pettit-Majewski. Danielle is from Washington County Public Health & Home Care and is the Injury Prevention Specialist for the PHAC. Amy Thoreson asked Council members and guests to introduce themselves.

Approval of Minutes
A motion was made by Donn Dierks and seconded by Laura Beeck to approve the minutes of the January 9, 2014 meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

Reports
Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH)

- The National Public Health Improvement Initiative (NPHII) funding to IDPH from CDC will end on September 30, 2014. This is one year earlier than anticipated.
- The CTG Grant is also ending. IDPH is hoping the momentum will continue.
- Lindsay Schmauss spoke about the Block Grant funding, it will be doubling.
- IDPH will be conducting an internal survey of our capacity to meet the PHAB standards for the NPHII grant.
- IPHA has received an accreditation preparation grant from the American Public Health Association.
- They have asked for updates from PHAC and IDPH and would also like a representative from each present on their webinars. Joy Harris will represent IDPH and Frank Magsamen will represent the PHAC.
- QI projects funded by the Modernization fund are moving along. Information from the participants will be gathered at the end of the grant period and shared with PHAC and local public health partners.
Ms. Pettit-Majewski gave a brief overview of the work that Washington County is doing for their QI grant.

The next Community of Practice for Public Health Improvement (COPPHI) meeting will be held in June in Kansas City. IDPH will be looking at ways to support Iowans who would like to attend the meeting.

The IDPH Executive team is reviewing the results of the District Board of Health application pilot. Any decisions made about possible next steps will be shared with the Council.

Public Health Evaluation Committee (PHEC)

The PHEC did not meet in February due to inclement weather

Unfinished Business

Midwest Institute for Community Health

They hope to send information in April on their revised standards.

New Business

New PHAB Standards

Tabled discussion until next meeting due to Joy Harris’ absence.

Modernization and Accreditation

Joy Harris developed a diagram to better define Public Health Modernization apart from Accreditation.

It may be useful in moving Modernization forward as we prepare for a new director.

The Council discussed additional information they would like to share, and other ways they could share it, with a new director.

The Council feels there should be more discussion within IDPH about the department meeting the standards.

Discussion with Les Beitsch, PHAB

Les Beitsch with PHAB joined the meeting via telephone at 1:00. He spent time talking about what PHAB is doing.

A few items were:

- PHAB would like to be a resource to public health agencies.
- PHAB helps guide them
- They have had agencies ranging from a population of 725 to 7.4 million apply for accreditation.
- There are currently 279 health departments in the PHAB system, from application letter to accreditation.
- 24 states are in some sort of PHAB Accreditation process.
- The benefits of accreditation are the same for a small health department as they are for a large health department. Some benefits are:
  - Organize what we should be doing
  - Organize where we should be going
  - Organize what it takes to be a great public health agency
- Accreditation is a way for a health department to show accountability to taxpayers.
- They have not made a decision on PHAB Equivalency. They are currently looking at 2 agencies to determine if their accreditation would be PHAB equivalent.
- It is too soon for the answers to the “so what” question.
Adjournment
Kari Prescott made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Donn Dierks. Unanimously approved.

Next meeting: May 1, 2014 10:00 – 3:00  Lucas Building, Des Moines